



Water Resources Division's Aquatic Invasive Species of the Week!

FOR THE WEEK OF:

October 7-13, 2013

Stone Moroko (*Pseudorasbora parva*)

Member of the "Least Wanted"

Origin: Native to East Asia.

Also known as: False razzbora, topmouth gudgeon

Current Distribution: Asia and various areas in Europe. NOT CURRENTLY IN THE U.S.

Means of Introduction: In 1960 it was introduced to ponds in Romania that were in close proximity to the Danube River and consequently spread throughout Europe. Often marketed as an ornamental species for the aquarium trade.

Description: Small fish that range from 2-8 cm. All fins rounded, upturned lower jaw, no barbels. Juveniles have dark stripe along their side. During spawning, males are darker with tubercles on their head and females are lighter in color.

Impacts: Stone moroko consumes larger species of plankton, which promotes algae growth and depletes water of available oxygen, causing death of other organisms. Can also host non-native parasites.

Habitat: Common in ponds, lakes, canals, swamps- often prefers slow-flowing water.

For more information on aquatic invasive species, please visit the DEQ's website:

www.michigan.gov/aquaticinvasives



Photo: Dr. R Gozlan, Bournemouth University, UK



Photos above and below: Environment Agency, U.K.

